



# **MEETING MINUTES**

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO**

### **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: The First, Second,  
and Third Tuesday of each month

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

County Courthouse  
Bridgeport, California 93517

**November 6, 2007**

**9:00 a.m. Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Hazard**

**Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Bauer**

#### **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No one spoke.

#### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

**Supervisor Reid** reported on the following issues and activities:

1. No report; Supervisor Reid was absent.

**Supervisor Hunt** reported on the following issues and activities:

1. Spent a week in Sedona, Arizona.
2. Attended the First 5 Mono County Commission meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Received update on the annual report, the independent audit, the budget, and the CARES program.
3. Attended an environmental health meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Received an update on the Mental Health Services Act. An education phase is coming up next year and they will get \$100,000 to implement the program.
4. Attended the second concert in a series of concerts being held in Mammoth; the Felici Trio was superb. The donation provided by the County is money well spent.
5. Attended the Great Basin air pollution control meeting yesterday. Addressed the following: (a) presentation on the proposed 2008 Owens Valley PM10 State Implementation Plan; (b) presentation on the hydrologic monitoring program; (c) approved letter of agreement for DWP to use wells; (d) talked about the opportunity through DMV to attach a fee of \$2-\$6 per vehicle registration, a portion of which can be used by the County for purchases such as school buses and snow equipment; this might be an opportunity to develop a match program for grants; (e) Mammoth Lakes has been reaching the federal attainment level for air quality but not the State's standards; (f) approved the progress report for Mono Basin.
6. Met yesterday with the new owner of property near Aspen Springs. He eventually wants to develop the property into ranch estates; before doing so, he wants to create housing for

construction workers—up to 8 units per acre. After a few years, this housing would be removed and the property developed into ranch estates. There is an issue about moving construction workers out of the housing in Mammoth so local people will have housing. Rusty Gregory wants to meet with Chairman Hazard.

**Supervisor Bauer** reported on the following issues and activities:

1. Did not take the ESTA trip to Devil's Postpile due to snow.
2. High school won three football games.
3. Catherine Handsburg interviewed stakeholders in June Lake for the economic/retail study.
4. Attended an ESTA conference call regarding finances.
5. Attended the agenda software training; should be a smooth process.
6. Attended the Eastern Sierra Regional Partnership meeting in Bishop. There was a good turnout and it was a productive meeting.
7. Attended Red Cross training in Lee Vining to become an official shelter manager.
8. Had lunch with Mary Canada to discuss a child care/adolescent connection subcommittee. They want high school and middle school kids involved.
9. Attended the agenda review committee.
10. Met with Brent Harper, who is working on a Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant; he is still writing it. This is about a fuels management program that will encompass the County.
11. Met with the CAO and other department heads to discuss a survey regarding the Clark Tract.
12. Attended CAMP: Summer put on by the Mammoth Lakes Public Trails Association.
13. Met yesterday with Brad Koehn about ESTA finances.

**Supervisor Farnetti** reported on the following issues and activities:

1. Attended the Town-County Liaison meeting. Discussed the following: (a) hospital exchange; (b) the recall—informed the Town about the process and timelines; (c) the airport EIS draft will be available on November 24, there will be an information workshop on December 18 and a workshop and public hearing on January 8, public comment on the EIS closes on January 11, and air service with Horizon Air is projected to begin December 2008; (d) discussed ESTA, focusing on short-range business plans and recruitment process for a permanent director. No Board members will be available for the November 15 meeting so it should be cancelled.
2. Went to Borrego Springs on the 25<sup>th</sup> at the tail end of the fires. There were 700 evacuees housed in the high school. Emergency services reacted well and Red Cross was serving food. This situation demonstrated the importance of being prepared for emergencies.

**Chairman Hazard** reported on the following issues and activities:

1. Attended RPAC in Benton on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There is an issue with graffiti, which Public Works will resolve.
2. On the 19<sup>th</sup>, met with the director of Fish and Game in Sacramento. Wanted to explore the idea of developing a better line of communication with management. The goal is to know in advance what is happening so the County can be better prepared to build programs for next season. Will have a discussion at the first adjourned meeting in January.
3. Attended the cemetery policy meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
4. Attended IMAAA on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There are some concerns with the new director both managing and overseeing home visits, so Charles will continue as director until the end of the year. Also, regarding meal policies, seniors over 60 get meals free, and guests now pay about \$4.50 per meal. Some people are walking in off the street and getting a cheap meal, even though they are not associated with a senior. This discussion will continue.

5. Attended the bighorn sheep meeting in Bridgeport on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Questions and concerns were not addressed in the public format; it lacked open dialogue.
6. Attended the Black Rock ground-breaking ceremony. Part of the original highway was visible; the roadway is believed to be one of the first concrete roads. It is historical and worth viewing.
7. Attended the bighorn sheep meeting in Bishop, which was conducted the same way as the Bridgeport meeting. There were no questions, answers, or feedback; it was a very structured and disconnected public meeting. Had a conversation with Bob Williams and expressed concerns about not having questions addressed; Bob will attend next week's Board meeting at 1:00 p.m. so the Board can ask questions.
8. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, Mountain Meadows Water District discussed numerous issues concerning a condominium project. The project is being expanded; it is going through the permitting process and there are disagreements with how to proceed.
9. Held office hours in Benton on the 2<sup>nd</sup>; was approached about the flood-channel policy. The County Counsel's office put together an agreement, which will come before the Board on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
10. Attended the Great Basin air pollution control meeting yesterday. Discussed the issue of giving \$200,000 to San Joaquin; the agreement is to provide \$100,000 and in return they would manage and oversee projects using the remaining \$100,000. In the past, the agricultural community has not spent the money, but this year the money can be used for school bus replacements, snow plows, street sweepers, etc. There is some frustration being expressed about giving funds to another air pollution control district; the board voted to send a letter indicating its displeasure about giving up \$200,000.
11. At the last adjourned meeting discussed internet service. Following this meeting, the community expressed concerns about giving away frequencies and prefers to do a study before tying up sites.
12. Spoke with Sheriff Scholl regarding the power outage and test of the reverse 911 system. The system was successful: 42% of the homes were contacted on the first call and on the second contact, 60% had been contacted; it took 15 minutes.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

- 1) CAO Report regarding Board Assignments (**David Wilbrecht**)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Receive brief oral report by County Administrative Officer (CAO) regarding his activities.

**David Wilbrecht**, CAO, reported on the following issues and activities:

1. Provided an update regarding the recall of Assessor Lovett. Outlined the timeline: The petition was approved as to wording and form on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The proponent has 90 days to collect signatures, after which time the election official has up to 30 days to verify signatures. Following this process, February 5<sup>th</sup> would be the next regular Board meeting at which the information would be presented. Within 14 days, the Board would need to approve an order to hold an election, and the recall could be put on the June 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. To run for the office a person must be a resident in the County and a registered voter; a person would also have up to one year to acquire an appraiser's certificate. If no one runs and a vacancy occurs, the Board has the authority to appoint an interim assessor.
2. Continuing work with Sierra Center Mall design; will bring this before the Board in December.
3. It appears that the exchange parcel will close this week. The AOC purchase and sale process can then move forward.

4. Spoke with Caltrans about the Lee Vining bypass. Even though gasex might be installed this year, suggested using the bypass road for another year. Hoping the pertinent agencies will continue last-year's approval.
5. Spent time with IMAAA last week. Had lunch with the new site coordinator assigned to Walker/Antelope Valley, and reinforced the County's commitment to the seniors in this area. Suggested meeting as a larger group, including Supervisors Reid and Hazard, at the end of November to talk about the future and vision. The issues with the cook have not yet been fully resolved.
6. The policies and procedures manual is now in the final review stage. Specific sections will be reviewed by appropriate people. This will come to the Board within the next several weeks.
7. Someone from the Antelope Valley Fire Department will contact Supervisor Reid about the building they are considering selling; need to research the issue first.
8. Implementing the new agenda software (Novus); ultimately the agenda packet will be delivered via email. The agenda review committee will discuss this at tomorrow's meeting. Implementation will occur in stages.

2a)

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular meeting of October 9, 2007.

**M07-250**

***(Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Reid absent)***

2b)

Regular meeting of October 16, 2007, as corrected.

***(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)***

**M07-251**

Supervisor Bauer: Correction to Board Report, page 2, Item #4: high school team may go to **CIF**; Item #6: **Catherine Handsburg**.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

***Closed Session from 9:17 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. Break from 10:00 a.m. through 10:07 a.m. Reconvened at 10:07 a.m. Reconvened closed session from 10:35 a.m. through 11:10 a.m. Reconvened at 11:10 a.m.***

3)

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Local 39, AFL-CIO (aka Mono County Public Employees).

4)

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: Mono County Sheriff's Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association).

- 5) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: Mono County Sheriff Department's Management Association.
- 6) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association.
- 7) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: Mono County Public Safety Officer's Association.
- 8) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Employee Organization: International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Local 39, AFL-CIO, Majority Representative of the Deputy Probation Officers Unit.
- 9) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representatives: David Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Robert Garret, and Brian Muir. Unrepresented Employees: All.
- 10) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL CONCERNING EXISTING LITIGATION. Subdivision (a) of Government Code 54956.9. Workers' Compensation Claim of Perry Pepke.
- 11) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54956.9. Facts and circumstances: Claim For Damages presented by Darryl G. Hogan.
- 12) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54957.6. Agency designated representative: to be announced. Unrepresented employees: county counsel and county administrator.
- 13) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Counsel.

- 14) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrator.

The Board had nothing to report from closed session.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS/EMERGING ISSUES

**Scott Burns** reported on the following:

1. Received a check from Intrawest, so the process will start today. There will be a public scoping meeting held in June Lake during the first week of December.

**Evan Nikirk** reported on the following:

1. Updates from Public Works: (a) will have enough crew members when needed for snow removal, and will hold a workshop on November 20<sup>th</sup> to reauthorize a snow removal map; (b) have been interviewing for two positions: a mechanic in South County, and a project manager; (c) vehicle purchases have gone out to bid for solid waste and parks; (d) regarding a concern about conflicting or redundant permits, the air pollution board permit is focused on particulate matter and controlling air-borne nuisances; the grading permit deals with a range of other issues.

**Marshall Rudolph** reported on the following:

1. The gravel pit property was not redeemed (taxes not paid), so the County agreement to purchase the property will go forward.
2. Regarding Alltel cellular phone, Fred Stump has been looking at the fire district's concerns about placement of Alltel equipment on their property. The fire district has suggested putting the ground equipment on the County's property; this issue will come before the Board at a future meeting. DWP wants to directly lease the property to the carrier and other current users (eliminating subleases), so would revise the leases accordingly. The carrier will need a conditional use permit.

**Tom Wallace** reported on the following:

1. Update about the health care reform concept: It does not appear that the governor and stakeholders have reached a compromise on how to implement universal health care in California, so this issue probably won't be on the special session of the legislature. There is still considerable interest in this issue, but it is very complex.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

- 15a) Mono County Investment Policy  
**ACTION:** Approve Mono County investment policy.  
M07-252 *(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)*

- 15b)** Cash Funds  
**M07-253** **ACTION:** Authorize the following cash funds: Animal Control—Whitmore, \$100; Animal Control—Bridgeport, \$50; Child Support, \$20; Clerk/Recorder—Bridgeport, \$50; Community Development—Mammoth \$120; Finance (Treasurer), \$200; Public Works—Bridgeport, \$50; Solid Waste—Benton, \$250.  
*(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)*

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY COUNSEL

- 16)** Amendment to Housing Mitigation Ordinance  
**Ord07-11** **ACTION:** Adopt **Ordinance Ord07-11** amending Chapter 15.40 of the Mono County Code that provides for Housing Mitigation Requirements, by specifically amending Chapter 15.40.040 pertaining to Requirements for Non-Residential Development Projects.  
*(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)*

## REGULAR AGENDA

### CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (INFORMATIONAL)

All items listed are available for review and are located in the Office of the Clerk of the Board

#	Received	Dated	From	Subject
<b>17a)</b>	10-10-07	09-20-07	Debbie Hilton, CFO Eastern Sierra Wildlife Care	"Thank You" to Mono County Fish & Game Fine Fund for continued support.
<b>17b)</b>	10-10-07	09-28-07	Dick Noles, John Frederickson, Joe Pecsí, E. J. Rummel, and Gary Olson	Letter to Mr. John McCammen regarding problems stemming from the appointment of Mr. Bruce Kinney to Deputy Regional Manager, Region 6. (cc: Mono County Board of Supervisors)
<b>17c)</b>	10-17-07	10-16-07	Dan Lyster	Letter to Mr. Gary Olson, Inyo-Mono Fish & Game Advisory Commission, explaining the procedure for making requests for funding. (cc: Mono County Board of Supervisors)
<b>17d)</b>	10-17-07	Not Dated	Catherine Hiatt, Mono County Library Authority Board	Thank you for a donation to the new Mammoth Lakes Library Building Fund.
<b>17e)</b>	10-17-07	10-12-07	Eric R. Loft, Department of Fish and Game	The Draft Environmental Document dealing with Method(s) of Take for Big Game, Nongame Mammals, and Nongame Birds is being recirculated for additional public comment.

17f)	10-31-07 Via fax	10-31-07	Tim Hansen	The recent public information meetings held in Bridgeport and Bishop to discuss the proposed critical habitat for the big horn sheep.
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Chairman Hazard acknowledged receipt of all correspondence.

## MONO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- 18) Authorize Development of a Hazardous Materials Response Area Plan for Mono County (**Dennis Lampson**)  
**ACTION:** (1) Authorize expenditure of Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$25,000 in accordance with the Office of Emergency Services Assistance Agreement. (2) Authorize the Director of Environmental Health (in consultation with County Counsel) to execute and administer an agreement with Woodward's Consulting Services (consultant) in the amount of \$20,000 to provide hazardous materials response plan development services for Mono County.

**THIS ITEM WAS PULLED**

## MENTAL HEALTH

- 19) Contract for Spanish Language Translation and Interpretation Services (**Ann Gimpel**)  
**M07-254 ACTION:** (1) Approve County entry into a proposed one-year contract with Gerardo Ramos for Spanish language interpretation and translation services. (2) Authorize the Board Chair to sign said contract on behalf of Mono County, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.  
**(Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Reid absent)**

Ann Gimpel: This is a continuation of an existing contract. The State Department of Mental Health requires that any county with a threshold language of more than 5% must provide service; Mono County's threshold language is Spanish. Ramos works four hours a week providing translation and interpretation services, and Mental Health would like to continue this contract. Last year the cost was about \$13,000.

Chairman Hazard asked if it would be beneficial to hire a person full time into this type of position to work in a variety of situations. David Wilbrecht said administration can consider this option.



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE—HUMAN RESOURCES

- 20)** Resolution Approving Employment Contract with James Little (**Robert Garret and Dan Lyster**)
- R07-77** **ACTION:** Adopt **Resolution R07-77** approving an employment agreement with James Little as a Tourism/Special Projects Assistant, and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000  
**(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)**

Robert Garret: This is a renewal contract. Little has been providing support with trade show representation and other tourism-related issues; the contract is capped at \$3,000. Garret asked for approval to enter into the same arrangement as last year.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 21)** Request for Funding of two separate projects through the Mono County Fish and Game Fine Fund (**Dan Lyster**)
- M07-255** **ACTION:** Approve funding support not to exceed \$250 for a portion of the production of a documentary film entitled "*Endangered Species: The Fish and Game Warden*"; funds to be provided to Snow Goose Productions.  
**(Bauer/Farnetti, 4-0; Reid absent)**
- M07-256** **ACTION:** Approve funding support not to exceed \$2,750 for the replacement of wind-driven aeration equipment with solar-powered equipment to prevent the winter kill of wild Kamloop rainbow trout at Junction Reservoir; funds to be provided to Hot Creek Hatchery Foundation.  
**(Bauer/Hunt, 4-0; Reid absent)**

Dan Lyster: Two items are before the Board for funding consideration: (1) \$250 for a documentary film that will focus primarily on California because there are so few game wardens per capita; and (2) a reimbursement to Hot Creek Hatchery Foundation for equipment purchased and installed; the actual cost is about \$2,600. Lyster said there was not a quorum of the Fisheries Commission but the two members present provided feedback on the projects and supported funding them. Regarding a third program (the K-9 project), they had questions about it and did not make a recommendation. There is approximately \$30,957 remaining in the fine fund.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**22a)** Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Commission (**Supervisor Hunt**)

**M07-257 ACTION:** Approve County participation in the non-binding Memorandum of Understanding, and authorize Supervisor Hunt to sign the documents and represent the County as a member of the Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Commission.

**(Hunt/ Farnetti, 4-0; Reid absent)**

Supervisor Hunt said the information about this MOU was forwarded to him. The Commission would enjoin many different agencies, and the MOU is non-binding so the Board is not obligating itself to any financial participation. Being a partner will keep the County informed about issues, and will help coordinate any development of trails and public access in the South County. Hunt recommended participation.

Supervisor Hazard asked about a map showing the 125 miles surrounding the town. He expressed concern about policies getting established which cause enforcement issues once trails extend outside the Town boundaries. Supervisor Hunt said County involvement should help mitigate this concern.

The Board Members expressed their support.

**22b)** Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council (**Supervisor Hunt**)  
**ACTION:** (1) Discuss membership information from Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council. (2) Consider whether or not Mono County wants to continue as a member of this organization; the fiscal impact would be about \$300.

Supervisor Hunt said about five or six years ago the County agreed to become a member of the Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council to represent the northern half of Mono County; this organization has programs and projects throughout two or three counties. Since the passing of John Cecil, Mono County has not had representation. Since the organization wants active participants, Hunt said Supervisor Reid should have input before the Board takes action.

The Board decided to carry this item over to December.

## ~ LUNCH RECESS ~

***Break from 12:00 p.m. through 1:00 p.m. Reconvened at 1:00 p.m.***

## OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

### 23) Award Clocks for Employee Service (**Rita Sherman**)

**ACTION:** Award 20-year service clocks to two Mono County employees: Sharon Carkeet (Community Development, Permit Technician), and Gil Graham (Social Services, Program Assistant).

Rita Sherman said Gil Graham and Sharon Carkeet are receiving 20-year service clocks, and presented information about Graham's and Carkeet's employment history. Ms. Carkeet was not present.

The Board presented the clock to Gil Graham.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### 24) Cemetery Reservation Policy (**Kelly Garcia**)

**M07-258**

**ACTION:** (1) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works to temporarily discontinue accepting grave site reservations at Bridgeport and Mono Lake cemeteries, until such time as an ordinance relating to public cemeteries is adopted. (2) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to be solely responsible to permit burials until such time as an ordinance relating to public cemeteries is adopted.

**(Bauer/Farnetti, 4-0; Reid absent)**

Evan Nikirk: Public Works and a group of interested parties have been working to develop a revision to the County's policy about cemetery operation. The goal is to have a uniform policy for all County cemeteries; it will take about a year to get through the process. In order to avoid a "land grab", the recommendation is to put a hold on reservations except for particular circumstances. Currently there are quite a few reservations in some of the cemeteries.

Chairman Hazard said Supervisor Reid agrees with the proposed policy.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

### 25) Information Pertaining to Potential Alternative Ambulance Purchase (**Mark Mikulicich**)

**ACTION:** (1) Receive oral report/information regarding direct purchase of ambulance, based on Committee findings and Paramedic Chief's recommendation. (2) Receive any additional direction from the Board and advise Paramedic Chief of any further direction.

Mark Mikulicich presented the following:

- Kevin Smith and Curtis Smith were instrumental in forming an ambulance committee.
- The objective of today's workshop is to make findings available that support a direct purchase.
- The Board has approved \$120,000 for this purchase; this amount was based on last-year's purchase. The Board also previously approved \$50,000 annually for ambulance replacement and equipment.
- The unit being considered for purchase is about 5% higher in base cost, but is of higher quality than the current units. The cost for the unit may be around \$128,000.
- The committee established criteria based on operational history of other units.
- There are numerous manufacturers that produce ambulance boxes, but the chassis type is limited; have had experience with Ford and Chevrolet chassis. Currently have a fleet consisting of all Ford models; this has been a good unit, but with high mileage, motors start to have problems. The recent Chevrolet has strong motors, but transmission problems. The Dodge chassis is not yet available. Ford is the first to offer the ambulance prep package, specifically configuring a chassis to have a box put on it. Chevrolet does not offer this and has more problems overall. Ford has a new 6.4 design motor which is better.
- The committee talked with 21 manufacturers, and eliminated those that were not available for inspection. There were five manufacturers who presented a demonstration.
- Delivery dates became an issue since it takes a long time to build an ambulance.
- The committee's first choice is Braun Northwest Inc. They will make the demo unit available for purchase. It can meet specifications and be ready for delivery in 30 days. This unit has not been in service and has less than 6,000 demo miles. The price will be less than a new unit.
- Kevin Smith and Curtis Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation reiterating the above information and added the following:
  - Braun has excellent customer service and offers a lifetime warranty, even if the box is remounted; they have a service center in Sacramento. The all-aluminum box lowers the overall vehicle weight, this also eliminates porous surfaces.
  - All warranties are the same for the demo unit as for a new unit.
  - The unit meets all the major criteria and will be an effective unit from which to work.
- Upgraded lighting increases the cost, but LED lighting is recommended since halogen lights are replaced often. This upgrade is included in the \$128,000 cost.
- In the County, there are currently five operational ambulances, plus unit 888 that is on permanent loan to White Mountain Fire District. This should be the last purchase for the next several years; instead, will remount current ambulance boxes on new chassis.
- Recommend that the Board consider and potentially approve the direct purchase of this particular ambulance unit, and give direction to EMS and Public Works to proceed.

The Board directed staff to move forward with this purchase.

***Break from 1:52 p.m. through 2:00 p.m. Reconvened at 2:00 p.m.***

## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

### 26a) Department of Finance Year 2 Work Plan (**Brian Muir**)

**ACTION:** (1) Review Department of Finance proposed Year 2 work plan. (2) Give direction regarding priority of plan projects as well as additions to or deletions from the list.

Brian Muir: After having been with Mono County for a year, wanted to update the Board on his work plan; some of the items are on the list because they involve a different way of doing business. He outlined his list of projects for the upcoming year.

Supervisor Hunt said constituents have expressed appreciation for the way Muir is handling the finance department. Chairman Hazard said he continues to get questions about how County money is divided. Asked Muir to visit the RPACs and make a presentation about County finances. Hazard said his constituents are also complimentary about Muir.

### 26b) Motor Pool Internal Service Fund (**Brian Muir and Evan Nikirk**)

**ACTION:** (1) Receive report on possible establishment of a motor pool internal service fund. (2) Give direction to staff.

Evan Nikirk: Presented a replacement schedule to the Board last May. A motor pool is a more appropriate way to replace vehicles on a regular basis; this helps with planning. The staff report outlines the high points. An internal service fund (based on cost per mile plus fuel) will be set up and Public Works will administer it.

Brian Muir: Asked the Board to consider this concept, which would include all County vehicles. Except for gasoline, costs would be converted to a cost-per-miles based on the useful life of the vehicle. The fund would accumulate enough money so that when a vehicle is at the end of its useful life (the cost to maintain exceeds the cost of a new vehicle), funds will be available. This concept will provide for the standardization of vehicles. There are no start-up costs *per se*, but the internal service fund will commit about \$1.5 million to pre-fund future purchases. The real value of this comes during tough financial times since the motor pool will allow for regular replacement of vehicles. The money in the pool could be used for cash-flow purposes, but not borrowing purposes. The proposed motor pool just includes road vehicles (not heavy equipment). Although they could consider heavy equipment purchases, however, most are funded from solid waste or road funds.

Regarding the list of vehicles, Nikirk talked with department heads about vehicle inventory and applications, and identified the types of vehicle needed when the replacement is purchased. Muir said Public Works will do the billing and finance will maintain accounting for the pool. Nikirk said they will start the pool with the 19 vehicles that were purchased this year.

The Board directed staff to proceed.

- 26c)** Quarterly Treasury Investment Report (**Brian Muir**)  
**ACTION:** Receive quarterly investment report on the Mono County Treasury Pool.

Brian Muir: This is the normal quarterly report. Last quarter, the rates for treasury were around 5%; it is now about a full percentage point lower. The County invested in longer-term investments so should do well, but will eventually have to reinvest funds as they mature. Funds are well diversified, with maturities to protect the County during times when cash balances drop. Funds will still be subject to market fluctuations because they have to remain liquid.

- 26d)** County Fees (**Brian Muir**)  
**R07-78 ACTION:** Approve **Resolution R07-78** adopting new or increased fees for certain County permits and other services, and authorizing the finance director to compile and maintain one or more lists of County Fees, resulting in an increase of \$134,295 per year.  
*(Farnetti/Hunt, 4-0; Reid absent)*

Brian Muir: The Board held a public hearing and at that time they directed staff to check the accuracy of the proposed fees and reconsider those increasing by more than 50%. Department heads verified accuracy, and any fee that was increasing by more than 50%, was lowered to stay at 50%. Development fees are a new concept, which represent the fully loaded, hourly rate of the employees in the departments. The development fees are an average of various rates. It is important to establish a fully loaded hourly rate.

Supervisor Hunt said there is a presumption that by charging these fees, services are being provided in an efficient manner and costs are being controlled. Supervisor Farnetti supported the master fee schedule and a yearly review and adjustment.

Evan Nikirk said the record-of-survey fee will be \$150 (rather than \$850 as earlier proposed).

Chairman Hazard said he felt comfortable that they have made an attempt to charge reasonable fees.

## **COUNTY COUNSEL**

- 27)** Claim for Damages presented on or about August 29, 2007, by Darryl G. Hogan (**Marshall Rudolph**)  
**M07-259 ACTION:** Reject the claim in its entirety and direct County Counsel to notify the claimant of the Board's action.  
*(Hunt/Farnetti, 4-0; Reid absent)*

Marshall Rudolph: The Board considered this claim in closed session. Rudolph recommended rejecting the claim in its entirety and directing County Counsel to notify claimant of this action.

## COUNTY COUNSEL AND FINANCE

- 28) Contract for Legal Services (**Marshall Rudolph and Brian Muir**)  
**M07-260** **ACTION:** (1) Approve County entry into proposed contract with the Romero Law Firm for the provision of legal services in tax-related bankruptcy matters. (2) Authorize the Board Chair to sign said agreement on behalf of the County, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in any fiscal year.  
*(Hunt/Bauer, 4-0; Reid absent)*

Marshall Rudolph: There is a need to have outside counsel available that specializes in bankruptcy since these matters usually involve tax collection. This is a legal specialty not found in-house, especially in small counties. Mono County would have better results if County Counsel had an outside firm to call upon; it is common practice to have someone available when and if needed. Martha Romero is very well known and her specialty is representing governmental agencies; she has a good reputation. The term of the agreement would be through June of 2008, and Romero would be available as needed. Rudolph said the cap of \$1,000 for services in any fiscal year may not be enough because more bankruptcies are being filed; he suggested increasing the amount to \$5,000 or \$10,000. Brian Muir echoed the fact that it would be appropriate to raise the limit to \$10,000.

### **ADJOURNED: 3:20 p.m.**

The Board adjourned the meeting in memory of Leigh Molson who recently passed away. Chairman Hazard said Ms. Molson was dedicated to the area.

Mono County Board of Supervisors next regular session will be on **November 13, 2007**, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. in the Board Chambers, County Courthouse, Bridgeport, California.

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